

HCS HB 1425 -- FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN

SPONSOR: Montecillo

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education by a vote of 18 to 1.

This bill requires the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to develop a process and scoring guide that awards additional performance points on the School Improvement Program to a school district that provides free full-day kindergarten to students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunch, students under an individualized education program, and students who are identified as at-risk as specified in the bill.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that an incentive to provide free full-day kindergarten may be necessary to get the remaining few districts that do not have it to provide it.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Montecillo; Missouri National Education Association; Missouri School Boards' Association; American Federation of Teachers; Missouri State Teachers Association; and American Federation of Teachers-Missouri.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.